

LABOR DEFENDER

Dec. 1927

10 Cents



• STRIKE •
NUMBER

The
**COLORADO
MINERS MARCH**

Views of the Colorado Strike



FIRST ROW (left): Roger Francezon, chairman G. E. B. of I. W. W. arrested in Colorado strike. (Right): Governor Adams conferring with President Welborn of the Rockefeller Colorado Fuel and Iron company. SECOND ROW: Views of miners' mass meetings in Walsenburg addressed by I. W. W. speakers.

At the I. L. D. Conference



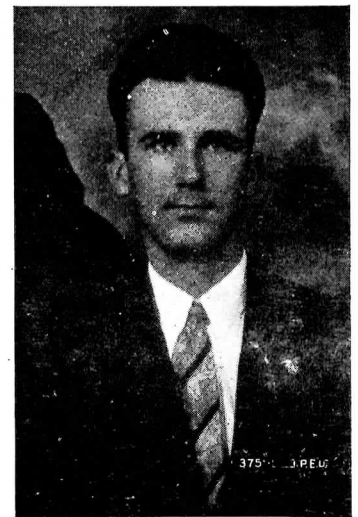
Lucy Parsons, guest of honor at the conference.



Pablo Manlapit, who sent message to conference.



Passaic prisoners' children greeted by delegates.



Paul Crouch, ex-prisoner, who addressed conference.

The Colorado Battle Line

By George J. Saul

THE first to die at the hands of the coal operators of Colorado, headed by Rockefeller's Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, have now fallen at the Columbine mine, filled with the bullets of the state's



While strike leaders are thrown into jail

officers for the enforcement of "law." It is absolutely certain that five were murdered: Jerry Davis of Frederick, George Kovitch of Erie, Rene Jacques of Louisville, John Eastenes of the Morrison mine, and Nick Spanudakhis of Lafayette. Many were wounded, and some few so badly that other deaths are expected any moment. Adam Bell, who at first was reported dead, was simply badly beaten with pick handles. . .

It was a massacre just a brutal massacre. And a framed one. That violence was used against the miners both at Aguilar and at Serene the same morning; that

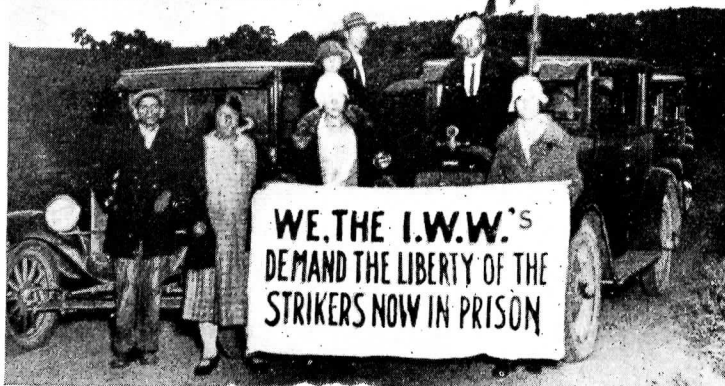
Thomas Annear, chairman of the Industrial Commission, Sterling B. Lacy, State Budget Commissioner, and Colonel Newlon of the National Guard were there to witness the scene so as to testify falsely about what happened; and that the Governor was so ready to believe what they falsely stated and respond in the way of calling out the Guards, causes the whole situation to ap-

pear as having been premeditated.

The miners, not one of whom was armed, were marching toward the postoffice. Louis Scherf, a former lieutenant of the infamous Pat Hamrock who made a "name" for himself at Ludlow 13 years ago, was in charge of the uniformed thugs who were guarding the Columbine mine. Scherf gave the order to fire into the throng of men and their wives and daughters. Tear gas bombs had already been thrown and the massacre was begun with rifle and pistol shots.

Three of the men died instantly; two died that evening in the hospital; more than a score of others, including women, were wounded, one of them being shot while attempting to care for the injured.

The coal camps are now a number of battlefields. Governor Adams has called out the Colorado National Guard and martial law has been authorized. Tanks and airplanes, infantry and cavalry are being rushed to the mining towns. Troops are being sent from Denver, Fort Collins, Boulder, Greeley, Golden Longmont and Loveland. Students of the State Agricultural College and the University of California are contributing in the dirty scab work. A new wave of arrests have been



and the miners demand their release



The governor meets and kids the strikers!

made and scores of miners have been added to the long list of jailed workers. A virtual reign of terror exists. The iron hand of the Rockefeller dynasty has descended heavily upon these workers who presume to fight for



decent conditions enjoyed by others.

The miners are fighting for recognition of their union, for a \$7.75 day wage, for the establishment of checkweighmen and an end to the vicious company union, the first one to be established in this country in 1915. The company's president controls the nomination and election of workers' representatives. The company furnishes the ballot boxes and

ballots. Meetings must not interfere with operations and can consider only such matters as are referred to them by the president, who has disputed questions appealed to him for final decision. . .

The strikers are fighting a heroic battle. They have a history and a heritage of fights. They have not forgotten Cripple Creek and Ludlow.

Remember that only a few month

ago thousands of Colorado mine s struck in solidarity with their brothers Sacco and Vanzetti. They need some of that solidarity now from the workers of the rest of the country. The memory of Ludlow stares them in the face. The blood of the strikers at the Columbine mine has served only to strengthen their determination, and their angry resistance to the slave standards of the coal operators.

The Fight in Berwind Canyon

By
Hugo
Oehler



Armed with pickhandles and guns, these thugs, acting as 'mine guards' were photographed on the scene of the Colorado strike.



A few days of non-picketing in the southern field in the coal strike, complying with the Governor's orders, showed that the miners were losing. The most important weapon of the Colorado miners had to be rescued and was when mass meetings were again held on the property of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company. Some of the picketers thought this did not constitute such, but when it was effective in stopping the production of coal the C. F. and I. henchmen ruled that it was picketing and arrested some of the speakers and issued warrants for others.

By November the fourth a caravan of sixteen cars of Fremont strikers who are out a hundred percent arrived in Walsenburg to help out in order to close mines in the southern field. While they were arriving in Walsenburg the afternoon mass meeting to be held at one of the mines encountered barbed wire barricades on the highway leading to the mines

charged with an electric current, and company gunmen behind them.

That night's mass meeting in Walsenburg at the I.W.W. hall brought forth action and a caravan of some thirty cars of Fremont and Walsenburg strikers left after the meeting for Aguilar. Arriving at midnight a meeting was held at the I. W. W.



H. H. Marss, chairman Denver I. L. D. conferring with I. L. D. attorney Wm. Penn Collins on mine strike.

hall, a combined force of these two and the Aguilar boys. When morning came a caravan of some fifty cars headed for the C. F. and I. property and at twilight the caravan arrived at the bridge leading up Berwind Canyon to three of their mines.

Enmassed on the other side of the bridge were over two dozen men with revolvers, shotguns and clubs, company and state officials. The strikers formed a mass and marched to the bridge where the spokesmen of the gunmen informed them that they could not pass. A combined force,

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a night's activity, a determined group who were out to close the mines marched forward. Unarmed, carrying the American

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Denver's Population,
1927, Over 325,000

DENVER POST

HUNDRED I. W. W. PICKETS JAILED IN SOUTH COLORADO

the company. A rush of the un-arrested into the ranks of the arrested, and more clubbing was brought on. At first about two



LEFT: Strike meeting addressed by Wm. Penn Collins, Denver I. L. D. attorney. RIGHT: H. H. Marss speaking. CENTER: Typical newspaper clipping showing the daily round-up and jailing of striking miners.



flag forward as many did in the battlefields of France but this time unarmed against armed, hired gunmen.

The two forces met on the bridge and as the workers pushed forward clubs and butts of forty-fives could be seen flying and landing on the heads of strikers. It was a short battle with blood flowing as the might of the workers pushed forward beyond the bridge. Collecting their wounded, they surged forward and marched up the canyon singing the song *Solidarity* as the officials and gunmen collected their forces and followed.

Up Berwind Canyon as daylight was breaking marched the singing miners and their wives and girls.

Up Berwind Canyon marched the struggle of the Colorado miners in defiance of the combined forces of the C. F. and I. and state officials. Up Berwind Canyon marched unarmed, brave miners who were fighting for a living wage and better conditions. Along the

hovels of the miners, with sleepy people looking out and on the hills men and children looking on, some joining as the procession marched a mile up to the Berwind Post Office steps.

Then the miners massed and prepared for a meeting and when the flag carrier informed the audience that he had received a broken knuckle while carrying the flag, the Sheriff, heads of the State officials, the gunmen, the special officers sent to the strike zone, arrested him. Following

that a strike leader from the audience who asked what the other man got was also arrested. The thugs, company and state gunmen were upon the crowd and some with horses on the outer part. The chairman only opened his mouth and was pulled down. Speaker after speaker who took the platform was pulled down and the arrested were cornered. Other miners in the crowd were also arrested. By this time the gunmen continued their handling of miners with force and, separating them as

dozen were arrested. Then the Sheriff said all were arrested and must go down the canyon. They refused. Gunmen on horses rode into the crowds and unarmed workers beat them back time and time again, while women on the outer line fainted. One miner's wife was trampled by the horses while clubs flew here and there. Every once in a while the uproar was quelled by songs of the striking miners. Axe handles were passed around to the gunmen and by eight o'clock Saturday morning, about three hours after the miners marched up the canyon they agreed among themselves to go down. The first ones arrested mingled with the others and lost their identity to the officials.

In the middle of the battle a girl was rearrested and put in an auto with another girl; a Spanish speaking comrade and the chairman of the meeting were rearrested. This brought on more confusion and more clubbing. Strikers de-

manded the release of their fellow workers

At the foot of the canyon the tired miners entered their cars. They entered and left after putting up a heroic battle against armed gunmen. Their victorious march up the canyon will never be forgotten. Their lessons and solidarity will remain in the minds of these miners. Back to their halls, back to their wobbly meeting places, back to renew the fight tomorrow.



A relief kitchen in Walsenburg

fast as possible, ordered them down the canyon.

The mass sang *Solidarity*, milled and fought back, demanded the release of the prisoners while the state officers and gunmen continued their attacks on those who seemed to direct, or those who were the most hated by

Remember the Ludlow Massacre!

By Max Shachtman

THE mining towns of Colorado are again being divided into two armed camps. In one are assembled the Rockefeller corporation, the mine operators, their governor and judges, their gunmen and troops. In the other are the striking miners.

However short may be their memories, the miners can remember another pair of armed camps in Colorado thirteen years ago. The workers had struck for recognition of their union, for improved conditions, better pay, the abolition of the vicious company store and scrip system. The benevolent teacher of Sunday schools, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., refused to grant the small demands of the strikers. In the mining camp of Ludlow, hundreds of them with their wives and children were forced to put up a tent colony.

The national guard had been called in, under the infamous Major Pat Hamrock. They were generously treated by Mr. Rockefeller's Colorado Fuel and Iron company. The company's mine guards and scabs were in the National Guard ranks. The C. F. and I. machine gun in Ludlow was used by the Guard. The Guard's officers rode around in the company's armored automobile.

On April 20, 1914, Hamrock called to his tent Louis Tikas, one of the leaders of the Greek miners, who formed one of the most substantial parts of the miners' colony. Tikas met Hamrock at the train depot, and the Major demanded the release of one of the men held in the colony. Tikas consented.

He returned to the tent colony, waving a handkerchief, and while he was running towards his com-

rades, two bombs were fired by the Guards. All the men were immediately gathered together with whatever rifles and ammunition they had, and made for the nearby hills, so that the 1,000 women and children who remained would not be fired upon by the uniformed thugs.

But the Guards did not follow the men into the hills. They trained their machine guns and rifles upon the colony. With fiendish mercilessness

they fired round after round into the defenseless tents. The machine guns were kept going almost from morning till evening. The very brave and noble soldiers were teaching the damned foreigners their bloody lesson.

"They got the machine guns set better and at better range, for it was terrible how these bullets came in there," the camp's nurse, Mrs. Jolly, said later. "The dogs and chickens and everything else that moved were shot. Between 5 and 6 o'clock they set fire to our tents. When they set fire to our tents we decided that

we would go from cave to cave as fast as we could. They could see us going through, and we had to dodge their bullets. We were going from cave to cave getting the women and children together, and let them out, and took chances on being shot. We had about 50 together when we saw one little Italian woman, but she was simply grieving herself to death. She is not sane, I don't think. She is killed, they say. Her three children were killed out there. We know and her three children were in the cave. We could not understand how they got the three and herself there, but we afterwards moved into the hills. So Louis Tikas told me that if we would get them together and lead them down the arroya—we didn't know that there was any men there—we thought it was she and her children. While he was on his way—the screams; I believe you could hear them for a mile. The screams of the women and children—they were simply awful. When he was on his way to the cave they captured him and took him prisoner. After they took him prisoner, they couldn't decide for a little while how they wanted to kill him. Some contended to shoot him; some contended that he should be hanged. Finally, Lieut. Linderfeldt went up and hit him over the head with a rifle, broke the butt of his gun over his head, and then made the remark he had spoiled a good gun on him. They stepped on his face. We have a photograph.... it shows



The Ludlow Monument built by the U. M. W. of A.

(Continued on page 187)

Why Greco and Carrillo?

By Ettore Frisina

WHEN one speaks of the monstrous frame-up of the paid police and the accomodating authorities of the United States organized against Calogero Greco and Donato Carrillo; when one hears of the efforts that the agents of Mussolini, from the Italian Ambassador down to the lowest member of the Fascisti gang, exert to obtain a conviction to death of these two obscure workers; when, finally, one thinks of the corruption and perjury that is used against them, a number of questions immediately arise, and they are these:

Why does Fascism choose Greco and Carrillo as its victims in America?

Why, out of the multitude of anti-fascists in New York among whom there are surely men of greater note and influence, do the agents of Mussolini pick out Greco and Carrillo, two men, known to very few, with no following?

What interest has Mussolini in handing to the executioner two out of the great mass?

It is easy to answer these questions!

The agents of Mussolini received an order to make someone pay for the killing of the two Fascists. The order was not for a frame-up against any specific person. The tyrant of Italy had to demonstrate to his people his power to enforce, even abroad, the theory of "eye for eye and tooth for tooth," without considering the quality of the tooth, or the whole mouth of teeth that were to be struck in revenge for a rotten tooth; he was not worried, in connection with the Bronx killing, about the identity of his victims, so long as there were two or more.

His agents in this country, careful

persons and intelligent in crime as are most criminals, know that a frame-up organized against one of the leaders of the Anti-Fascist Al-



The monster of Fascism comes to America

liance would create too much of a tumult: what happens to two unknown men may leave the Italian immigrants wholly or partly indifferent and may leave unmoved American public opinion.

In Italy, the fascisti have massacred several thousand citizens, but not a single murder moved public opinion as much as the assassination of Giacomo Matteotti. A frame-up against one of the anti-fascist leaders of New York would surely create resentment and would not have so great



Calogero Greco

a possibility for successful ending.

And there are also some reasons of a psychological nature.

Calogero Greco and Donato Carrillo belong to the mass. If the victims are only the leaders, then the mass of anti-fascists may continue the struggle against the tyranny that tortures the martyred Italian people; and the obscure may think that they are immune from the frightful vengeance and thereby take courage from their lack of notoriety.

In sending to their death two of the nameless mass, the Fascisti are trying to strike at and terrorize the entire mass; they want to demonstrate that Fascism strikes

not only at the leaders but is equally pitiless towards all of its opponents.

The conviction of Greco and Carrillo would be, in the eyes of the organizers of the frame-up, a warning to the multitude of Italian workers in America who hate and fight Fascism. This is why the blood of Greco and Carrillo has been chosen to satisfy the thirst of the beast whose lair is in the Palazzo Chigi.

The New York police has been so interested in the organization of the frame-up, first because it wishes to render a good service to the ruling class, and also to demonstrate that assassins are usually punished.

By sending to their death any two men the police wish to demonstrate that it knows how to smoke out whoever commits a crime and the Fascists have the double satisfaction of blindly avenging their two dead and to intimidate the anti-fascist following. And the Italian tyrant could not choose a better ground for his revenge: New York, like Chicago and like Dedham, is in America.

The Third Conference of International Labor Defense

THE delegates who gathered in New York for the third annual conference of International Labor Defense were a tribute to the fact that the movement of class solidarity with the victims of capitalist persecution has become a living part of the labor's struggle in the United States. There were 306 delegates present from 30 cities. They came from all parts of the country, and from all sections of the labor movement; but they were of one mind in their united support to the cause of labor defense.

It was a serious working body which reviewed and discussed the past year of the work of the I. L. D., the report on which was given by James P. Cannon. The outstanding work of the period since the last conference was undoubtedly the campaign for Sacco and Vanzetti. It dominated all of the activities of the organization. It tested the class character of the I.L.D. and found that it was unyielding and dependable. It taxed the capacities of the movement to the fullest and enabled it to head the huge and unprecedented wave of the protest movement that swept the entire country. It drew the circle with which the workers surrounded the futile lawyers' and liberals' movement to show all the more sharply the contrast between it and the surging life of the class movement in behalf of the two martyrs.

The third conference found that the I. L. D. was a timely force not only in the big and dominating issues but that it was a source of strength and dependability in the smallest case of capitalist persecution. It could be proudly stated in the report of the executive committee that not a single worker had appealed in vain to the I. L. D. for support. An arrest of no matter how humble a worker for his labor activities or opinions found the I. L. D. at its unremitting task of defense and support.

In the year since the last conference, the I. L. D. had broadened and made more systematic its work of relief to the class war prisoners and their dependants. Perhaps only the men behind the bars and walls of capitalism, and their families who feel the bitter knife of destitution can completely estimate the value of this material aid. The I. L. D. worked incessantly to teach the entire working class the vital importance of this work of solidarity.

The conference was an answer to the critics and opponents of the organization, those experts at sabotage who cover their own infamy and do-nothingness by throwing the mud of slander and calumny at the militant fighters.

The endorsement given to the line followed by the executive committee was the reply the conference gave to the Felicanis of Boston, the Oneals and Cahans of reactionary socialism, and the treasonable labor bureaucrats in other parts of the country. As in the past, the I. L. D. will go forward with its work, refusing to engage in futile controversies, and allowing its deeds to reply to its attackers.

The delegates occupied themselves not only with the review of the past work, but took up those issues which are pressing for solution immediately. The Greco-Carrillo case, which already has all the earmarks of another Sacco-Vanzetti frame-up, was considered after the report of Carlo Tresca. And it is indicative of the work of the International Labor Defense that the protest movement is already being begun, and meetings held, in various parts of

the country so that they can be mobilized and ready to use the legal tools of Mussolini. They intend to judicially protect innocent workers.

The cause of the Cheswick case has been framed-up for the conference by the conference in the White. His graphic description of the labor movement and the labor movement and the labor movement, stirred the delegates that the Cheswick defense should be roaded to prison for the defense.

Earl R. Browder, from Colorado, reported that the miners are carrying on a campaign of potism and misery of



The third annual conference of International Labor Defense in session

Conference of International Labor Defense

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the country so that the American workers may be mobilized and ready at the first sign from the legal tools of Mussolini in this country that they intend to judicially assassinate these two innocent workers.

The cause of the Cheswick miners who have been framed-up for their loyal adherence to the Sacco-Vanzetti movement was also taken up by the conference in the report of William J. White. His graphic description of the iron heel in Pennsylvania which is trampling over the labor movement and persecuting its best fighters, stirred the delegates to the determination that the Cheswick defendants shall not be railroaded to prison for their activities.

Earl R. Browder, who had just returned from Colorado, reported on the fight that the miners are carrying on there against the despotism and misery of Rockefeller rule. The

conference pledged its support to a conclusion to the strike and expressed vigorous condemnation of the terrorism of armed and uniformed thugs who have murdered five peaceful pickets, and a score or more of others.

The conference, continuing the fraternal solidarity with the victims of white terror in other countries, reaffirmed its opposition to the persecution of labor revolutionaries in all capitalist countries. The conference pledged its support to the international struggle for the imprisoned and tortured workers everywhere. The report on international persecutions was given by Comrade Benjamin Gitlow, himself one of the best-known class war fighters in this country.

The delegates sent their warmest greetings to the class war fighters imprisoned



The third annual conference of International Labor Defense in session, photographed following the report of James P. Cannon.

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the widow of the great Albert R. Parsons, who Lucy Parsons symbolize between the militant labor day, which was not silent Cook County forty years labor movement of today the noble and heroic traits were hanged by the insensate capitalism.

Two of the most important conference were its declaration movement against the present system, and to carry on a campaign to eradicate from the evil remnants of the old defense movements. The formerly composed of some money-collecting agencies in the living movement and now and temporary aims conditions are still reflected to certain extent. Every one build the I. L. D. upon the basis of unity of all of all class-war cases, thousands and hundreds of workers into the movement.

There are new struggles in the air. The rumblings of the parts of the country call for apathy that has dominated for the last few years. It is known that every new victim of the capitalist class. International Labor Defense already sunk its roots in the struggle. There are no more doubts question its right to an important place in the world.

The past has shown that the I. L. D. is a strong force on the side of the oppressed. It has been caught in the net of the kills and imprisons the workers. The future must be the I. L. D. into a powerful movement,—a shield for the class.



The third annual conference of International Labor Defense in session, photographed following the report of James P. Cannon.

International Labor Defense By James P. Cannon

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to the class war fighters imprisoned in various

parts of the country, and they stood in respect-
ful tribute to the martyrs of labor, Sacco and
Vanzetti, and to two other courageous fighters,
both active workers in the International Labor
Defense who had died in the past year, Eugene
Victor Debs and Charles Emil Ruthenberg.
The conference paid its warmest respects to
the widow of the great Haymarket martyr,
Albert R. Parsons, who spoke at the conference.
Lucy Parsons symbolized for them the link be-
tween the militant labor movement of yester-
day, which was not silenced on the scaffold of
Cook County forty years ago, and the militant
labor movement of today which continues in
the noble and heroic traditions of the four who
were hanged by the instruments of murderous
capitalism.

Two of the most important phases of the
conference were its decisions to organize a na-
tional movement against the infamous frame-
up system, and to carry on a systematic cam-
paign to eradicate from the I. L. D. the last
evil remnants of the old traditions of labor
defense movements. These movements were
formerly composed of small committees, chiefly
money-collecting agencies, with no broad basis
in the living movement of the masses, with nar-
row and temporary aims and programs. Such
conditions are still reflected in the I. L. D. to a
certain extent. Every effort will be made to
build the I. L. D. upon a different basis: upon
the basis of unity of all elements, of the defense
of all class-war cases, of the drawing in of
thousands and hundreds of thousands of work-
ers into the movement of solidarity.

There are new struggles visible on the ho-
rizon. The rumblings of revolts in various
parts of the country can already be heard. The
apathy that has dominated the labor movement
for the last few years is being shaken off. We
know that every new struggle brings with it
new victims of the bestial terror of the cap-
italist class. International Labor Defense has
already sunk its roots deep in the soil of the
struggle. There are no longer any skeptics who
dare question its right to existence and its
important place in the movement.

The past has shown that the I. L. D. can be
a strong force on the side of those workers who
have been caught in the frame-up machine that
kills and imprisons the rebels against capital-
ism. The future must see the development of
the I. L. D. into a powerful arm of the labor
movement,—a shield for the whole working
class.



session, photographed following the report of James P. Cannon.

What to Expect from Gov. Fisher

By Don Brown

THE attack on union miners and their wives and children at Cheswick on August 22 when more than 200 men, women and children were injured by gas or policemen's clubs and twenty-one workers were arrested and held on framed charges of rioting has aroused even reactionary elements in the American Federation of Labor to protest, first to Governor Fisher of Pennsylvania and then to President Coolidge.

No one expects the Governor, who was formerly attorney for and stockholder in the Clearfield Bituminous Coal Corporation, to take any sincere action on the matter, but a protest was made to him by a delegation headed by International Vice-president Philip Murray of the United Mine Workers of America and one result which is very distasteful to the coal corporation governor was achieved—there was much publicity given the matter in newspapers all over the country.

"All publicity about such matters is very distasteful to the authorities," I heard the governor quoted as saying. The governor is also reported to have called the *New Republic* a red sheet and declared that the writer of the report which it recently printed of the state troopers' assault on the people at Cheswick as the work of some "dirty foreigner from New York's East Side."

The protest made to Governor Fisher by Phillip Murray was not the first which he has heard

since the brutal attack at Cheswick, but it was the first to which he was forced to give public notice.

It grew out of the A. F. of L. conference at Pittsburgh on November 14 when the Cheswick affair was cited as one of the incidents in a gigantic conspiracy to deprive the miners of decent wages and living conditions. Speakers at the convention blamed the political powers of Pennsylvania, including Governor Fisher and the railroad and public utility corporation for the plot of which the twenty-one men arrested at Cheswick are victims.

At the Pittsburgh meeting, the union leaders were not reticent in

linking the name of Governor Fisher with "the damnable conspiracy of the coal companies and the politicians to destroy the union." They made public that the governor was attorney to and director of the Clearfield Bituminous Coal Corporation, owned by the New York Central railroad and said "that fact gives a possible motive why the governor permits coal and iron police, deputy sheriffs and state police to run amuck in the coal fields."

Protests against the actions of the troopers in attacking with gas and beating up men, women and children and demands for investigation which were made to Governor Fisher by the American Civil Liberties Union and other organizations and individuals have been ignored thus far.

Whether or not all these protests will have any effect on the cases of the men held for being present at the Cheswick meeting and who are being defended by the International Labor Defense and the American Civil Liberties Union, I cannot say. From talks I have had with attorneys, it appears that the fact that the men are not in the slightest degree guilty of any violence or even an attempt to defend themselves and that the state troopers were the aggressors in a most brutal manner, has little to do with the case. It is more important, they claim, to "refrain from irritating the political powers such as Governor Fisher and the district attor-



When the Pennsylvania Cossacks let loose

ney, so that they may kindly allow the case to be *nolle prossed*, instead of securing convictions, which would not be difficult in a state as corrupt as Pennsylvania is."

Proof that the Cheswick affair was no sudden outburst due to the alleged drunkenness of the state police, but is a part of a campaign, is seen in the continued attacks at Cheswick on certain of the miners who have been spotted as militant. One example is Steve Kurepa, one of the Cheswick defendants. Steve has been beaten up or put through the third degree three times by state troopers, deputy sheriffs, local policemen and what-not. Several weeks ago he was taken from his house at Harwick late at night to a jail nearby where he was mauled and beaten until morning by the Cossacks. They told him they were putting him through the third

degree because they had heard he had been seen the afternoon before with



S.B.

Steve Kurepa

a man who was alleged to have cut another one in a knife fight.

Remember the Ludlow Massacre!

(Continued from page 182)

plain the prints of the heel in his face. After he fell, he was shot four times in the back. There were three of our men captured and murdered while they were trying to rescue those women and children.

Mrs. Snyder... threw the cellar door open and hollered, 'For God's sake, come and help me. I have a dead boy in here. They made a reply that it was too damned bad they were not all dead.'

There were thirty-four men, women and children murdered in Ludlow on that day, and many of them were cremated as a result of the brutal order by Hamrock that the tents be burned despite his knowledge that they were occupied by the families of the strikers.

Hamrock is still living. The murderers are free. Louis Scherf, one of the men under Hamrock at that time, is now in charge of men who just killed five of the strikers at the Columbine mine. The Rockefellers and their thugs want to choke this strike with its own blood too. The first shots have already been fired, and workers have been murdered almost in the shadow of the Ludlow monument that was erected by the United Mine Workers Of America.

The whole country must resound with the bitterest condemnation

this crime, and the crimes that are to follow unless labor is vigilant. Only the solidarity of the working class can bring to an end the reign of terror and death, and victory to the embattled strikers.

Remember the massacre at Ludlow! The movement of solidarity must be swiftly built.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC. REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912,

of The Labor Defender published monthly at Chicago, Ill. for October 1927, State of Illinois, County of Cook. ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared George Maurer, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the Labor Defender and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 411, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, International Labor Defense, 23 S. Lincoln St., Chicago, Ill.; Editor, Max Shachtman, 23 S. Lincoln St., Chicago, Ill.; Managing Editor, None; Business Manager, George Maurer, 23 S. Lincoln St., Chicago, Ill.

I remember one more story of the attack at Cheswick which I do not believe has been published yet. It is that of Joe Hajduk, a miner of Har-marville, Pennsylvania. He said:

"I was in my Ford coupe in the road beside the picnic ground. I had my wife and Mrs. Jennie Oswald and my six-months old baby in the car. I couldn't hear any of the speakers as we weren't close enough. When the troopers started to throw gas bombs I turned the car around to get out. I closed the windows so the gas couldn't get to my baby but two state troopers ran up and broke in the back of the window with their clubs and backed off and threw a bomb. It missed the hole they had made but fell under the car and exploded. The gas made my baby and two women sick."

TWO MORE BAZAARS

San Francisco I.L.D. is giving its two-day bazaar on Saturday and Sunday, December 16 and 17, at the Workers Educational Club, 1212 Market Street. Proceeds go toward the Christmas Fund.

Detroit I.L.D. is going to hold a Mask Ball and Bazaar on December 26 for the benefit of the class war prisoners and their defense. The I. L. D. office is at 1967 Grand River Avenue, Detroit, and tickets can be obtained there.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

International Labor Defense, 23 S. Lincoln St., Chicago, Ill.; Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, chairman, 23 S. Lincoln St., Chicago, Ill.; James P. Cannon, secretary, 23 S. Lincoln St., Chicago, Ill.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state). None.

George Maurer, (Signature of business manager).

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30 day of September 1927.

S. T. Hammersmark (My commission expires May 22 1928).

(Seal).

A REBEL WORKER'S LIFE

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY
OF A CLASS WAR PRISONER
By EUGENE BARNETT

(Continued From Last Issue)

I had heard of the threatened raid on the hall, but did not think anyone would attempt such a thing in daylight. I had heard some of the men in the hall express the same view. I stood there watching the marchers. They went north on the east side of the street, and turned one block north of the Hall and came back on the west side of the street. When the section of the parade that was composed of the business men, of the Elks Club, were in front of the Hall, the tail end of the parade, made up of soldiers in uniform, was still passing north, on the east side of the street.

The first thing I had noticed, to make me think they meant to start trouble, occurred then. The business men started calling the attention of the men in uniform to the Hall by pointing and making signs. Some of them made faces at the hall and with their thumbs to their noses wiggled their fingers in the direction of the Hall. Then they cheered the men in uniform and passed on down the street.

But there was an undercurrent of excitement among them so strong a man looking on could not fail to notice it. And I knew something was going to happen. When the soldiers came back, the last half of them stopped in front of the hall, and a man on a brown horse gave the order: "Bunch up, men!" then rode to the rear of the line.

I could hear him giving more orders but could not understand them. But I noticed one man in what I took to be the front line of the soldiers that had stopped, turning around and facing the Hall in a crouching position as a man on second base when he's waiting for a hit to go home on. And every time the man on horseback gave an order, he would make a false start just as the man on the base does, on a strike or a foul. Then I heard a yell and they all seemed to rush for the Hall in a body, as near as I could tell from inside the hotel



The Centralia defendants. Barnett can be seen at the extreme lower right.

lobby. When the rush was made I pulled my coat, threw it on a table or sewing machine near the stove and started for the door, to get my beating up with the rest of the boys.

But before I got to the door I heard the windows smashed and the door slammed against something behind it and the shooting started!

I saw the surprised look on the faces of the soldiers and some of them stopped with one foot in the air, not

even finishing the step they were taking. I knew then that someone in the hall was doing the shooting and I knew I had no business out in the mob. I walked to my machine where I had thrown my coat, and stood there. The soldiers scattered from in front of the hall.

Mrs. McAllister had been at the door during the shooting and now she tried to get the mob to stop. She pointed to the United States flags she had on the front of her windows, and to the Red Cross signs in the window and asked them not to destroy her property. She was insulted for her trouble. She had a small revolver and they started begging her for it, saying, If you are our friend give us the gun. But she would not. She said she had it for her own protection. Then three fellows came into the hotel and went to a room in back of the lobby. One of them came out again. As he was coming out he met a tall man in uniform with a large caliber revolver in the lobby, and he said they are back there. The soldier had the gun levelled ahead of him and Mrs. McAllister had gone to the room in the back.



Two of Eugene Barnett's brothers

(To be Continued)

Illinois' Supreme Court Acts on Zeigler

HENRY Corbishley, Steve Meanovich, Martin Simich and Eddie Maleski are going to prison as a result of the verdict of the state supreme court which just upheld the decision of the lower court in which the men were convicted of "assault with intent to murder." The same decision



Henry Corbishley

reversed the lower court's conviction of Frank Corbishley, Mike Karadich and Stanley Paurez.

All of the men involved were active workers in Local 922, United Mine Workers of Zeigler, Illinois. Henry

Corbishley, the leading defendant, was the president of the local. Practically all of the men originally indicted in the case were militant workers and as progressives they incurred the vicious opposition of the Farrington machine in the union. Farrington, who was later exposed as an employee of the Peabody Coal Company at an annual salary of \$25,000, while acting as president of the Illinois miners' district, was one of those instrumental in securing a verdict of guilty against his own members.

The case arose out of the fight led by Corbishley and his comrades against the "short-weighting" of the local mine. The union's sub-district officials came down to the Local 922 meeting one night and in a fracas which followed, Mike Sarovich, one of the progressives was killed by a

pistol shot, and a couple of officials were hurt. Instead of the killer of Sarovich being brought to trial, the progressives were railroaded through to a conviction in a bitterly prejudiced court atmosphere.

The Illinois state supreme court decision is a scandalous OKing of the lower court's



Stanley Paurez

venomous decision. The convicted men face long terms in prison for no good reason, and they will have to serve unless a fight is made immediately for their release.



Voices from Prison

Greco

Bronx County Jail.

International Labor Defense,
New York City.

Dear Comrades:

In replying to your letter I heartily thank your organization for the solidarity given to us, and all friends and sympathizers interested in our case.

At the sorrow of innocently being in jail, is of greatest comfort the solidarity of all the good friends, lovers of justice and liberty; solidarity that we feel sure, do not will be less in our behalf.

I have not any suggestions to offer, I have faith in the committee and what count more is my innocence that with your help will be clearly proved.

If the few fascists of New York have thought that they can carry out in America their infamous system, that have already enslaved Italy, they are wrong and I hope that the American people will reprimand them.

Down the fascism, all fascisms, and forward for liberty and justice.

Brotherly yours,

Calogero Greco.

Tom Harty

Thomaston, Me.
Box "A"

James P. Cannon,
Secretary, I. L. D.,
New York City.

Dear Comrade:

Realizing that the the third annual conference of the I. L. D. is about to be held, I thought that I could avail myself of no better opportunity to express to all comrades what the I. L. D. has done for me, a class war prisoner, now in my seventh year of confinement in the Main State Prison.

Were it not for the I. L. D. comrades, who so generously contribute the necessary funds, that permit the organization to send a monthly remittance there are many things that I would have to do without, as the State makes no provisions for same.

Furthermore, when you have satisfied and paid your debt to the State, your release is not paved with golden bricks, and there again the I. L. D. has shown itself a factor that leaves no doubt in the mind of class war prisoners that they are friendless.

Many class war prisoners are loud in their praise of what has been done by the

I. L. D. for their families.

In conclusion, I will say that words fail to express my gratitude and my only wish is that the third annual conference will be a banner one, and that each comrade shall do his or her utmost so that all efforts shall be crowned with success.

Such are the heartfelt wishes of one class war prisoner to the I. L. D. and all comrades.

Tom Harty

Matt Schmidt

San Quentin.

Dear Friends:

Your check for \$10.00 arrived safely. Again I can only thank you and our other good friends for your kindnesses.

I am beginning to believe that San Quentin is the only place in these United States where everybody don't hide under the bed when somebody mentions Moscow or says anything about "Red". Tom Jefferson or Ben Franklin must turn over in their graves. Old Steve Girard has, I will wager, kicked his coffin into pieces.

Please don't scare the poor dears. They may have weak hearts along with their yellow livers.

Sincerely,

M. A. Schmidt.

A Working Class Epic

The Life and Death of Sacco and Vanzetti.
By Eugene Lyons. International Publishers.
\$1.50.

There is a weak movement under way to prove legally the innocence of Sacco and Vanzetti of the South Braintree murder. A group of well-meaning (smile when you say that to me) liberals and juriconsults feel that it must be legally shown that the two martyred revolutionaries had nothing to do with the Slater and Morrill payroll murder and robbery.

Well, the workers of the world know that Sacco and Vanzetti are innocent. They know that these two glorious heroes were sacrificed on the altar of capitalist hate and fear. Before Professor Frankfurter wrote his illuminating pamphlet "The Case of Sacco and Vanzetti", the workers knew that these men were being held as hostages for the working class. They knew it with that fine and unerring intuition which is so peculiar to the workers. Somehow or other these powerful truths are felt; no legal phrase-twisting is needed, no perfumed and silk-clad committees are required to establish the innocence of Sacco and Vanzetti.

Eugene Lyons has this intuition, this close contact with the working class and it is because of this that he is eminently fitted to be the author of "The Life and Death of Sacco and Vanzetti." Nor is this all. He has realistic grasp of the social forces with strangled Sacco and Vanzetti. He has the facts. During the early days of the case when the liberals and "progressives" stood aloof, sniffing, he was the publicity director for the Boston Defense Committee. He knew the men, their lives, their families; he visited their homes in Italy, and so it was that the case became part of his life. Who better than Lyons could have written this stirring narrative and biting indictment?

Starting with the early childhood of Sacco and Vanzetti and moving at a quick pace the story unfolds with cinematic vividness until the book closes with the tragic murder at Charlestown prison on the morning of August 23rd 1927.

The book closes with a quotation from Vanzetti's scathing denunciation of Judge Thayer and the capitalist and legal hierarchy of Massachusetts and America:

"If it had not been for this thing, I might have lived out my life talking at street corners to scorning men. I might have died, unmarked, unknown, a failure. Now we are not a failure. This is our career, and our triumph. Never in our full life could we hope to do such work for tolerance, for justice, for man's understanding of men as now we do by accident. Our words—our lives—our pains—nothing! The taking of our lives—lives

of a good shoemaker and a poor fish-peddler—all! This last moment belongs to us—that agony is our triumph."

I hope that Eugene Lyons' book will not merely be read because it is an exciting and well-written book. It is a warning to the workers of America to build a solid wall of labor defense. "The Life and Death of Sacco and Vanzetti" was hardly off the press when the District Attorney of Bronx County in New York City said that he hoped that Greco and Carrillo, two framed anti-fascist workers, would be in the death house at Sing Sing before Christmas. Let us hope that Lyons' book will be a powerful incentive to draw all the workers together into a solid phalanx against the filthy frame-up system used almost universally against the working class.

Charles Yale Harrison

Our Italian Section

Although it has been organized for only a few weeks the Italian Section of International Labor Defense already shows such signs of progress and activity as guarantee it a powerful and influential future. Branches are being organized, and those Italian units of I. L. D. which existed heretofore are having their work coordinated and directed on a far higher level than at any time previously. The section is very active in the Christmas Fund drive now being made for International Labor Defense, and in mobilizing support to the cause of the two framed-up Italian workers Greco and Carrillo. Comrade Ettore Frisina, well-known in the Italian labor movement of this country, is the national secretary of the section.

Legal Advice to Workers

Joseph R. Brodsky, attorney for International Labor Defense, will conduct this column regularly in **The Labor Defender**. Answers will be given to questions concerning strike matters, injunctions, deportation proceedings, wage claims, landlord and tenant proceedings, compensation claims and the like. Although advice may be given on legal steps that may be necessary, attorney Brodsky will be unable to undertake any legal work in connection with various matters inquired about.

By Joseph R. Brodsky

Dear Comrade Editor:

Some time ago I was hit by a broken belt in the factory where I work, causing a severe injury to my eye. We had been troubled with this belt before and the boss, instead of putting in a new one, always patched it up. Can I sue him for my injuries?

ANSWER: Your remedy is to file a claim with the Workmen's Compensation Commission and the limit of your recovery will be two-thirds of your weekly earnings, not exceeding twenty dollars per week. In view of the fact that your injury has been occasioned in the course of your employment, you are barred from suing for damages arising out of the negligence of your employer and are compelled to abide by the compensation award. Forms to be filled out should be furnished you by your employer or you may secure them at the Compensation Bureau yourself.

* * *

Dear Comrade Editor:

I was hired to work as a porter in a hotel at thirty-five dollars a week. After working eight weeks I was discharged on a Wednesday and the boss wants to pay me for half a week only. What are my rights?

ANSWER: Since you were hired by the week you are entitled to be paid for a full week even though you were discharged during the week. Go to the Municipal Court in the district where you live and you will be advised there what steps to take

to bring your employer into court so that you may recover your full week's salary.

* * *

Dear Comrade Editor:

I am not a citizen although I have been in the country many years. I want to go to Europe. What must I do to make sure that I will be re-admitted?

ANSWER: Secure from the immigration bureau in your city a re-entry permit application, which you will send to Washington, D. C., after you have filled same out, and within about thirty days you will receive the re-entry permit, which will enable you to return to the United States as an alien resident regardless of quota limitations.

A Greco-Carrillo Number

The case of the two Italian workers, Donato Carrillo and Calogero Greco, which is assuming the character and proportions of the Sacco-Vanzetti case, will be featured in detail in the coming issue of the Labor Defender, January 1928. The issue will contain, beside a great deal of other material, articles by well-known men in the labor movement who are closely in touch with the case as well as a number of original photographs. The intimate relation between the case and Mussolini and his Fascist government will be thoroughly gone into. Place all orders now.

NOW READY!

SACCO and VANZETTI

Labor's Martyrs

AN authentic and graphic record of the historic case which aroused the interest of millions of men and women throughout the entire world. The frame-up machinery is take apart, piece by piece, so that the entire basis of the legal execution of the two rebels is destroyed.

The pamphlet challenges the spurious "support" that was given to Sacco and Vanzetti by false "liberals" and labor "leaders" and gives an accurate account of the class movement that developed for the two martyred workers.

It will become an inseparable part of every worker's bookshelf. It is a rich story of an epic of the American class struggle.

A NEW 84 PAGE PAMPHLET

Including a striking two-color stiff cover

By Max Shachtman

Illustrated

TWENTY FIVE CENTS PER COPY

In Bundles of Ten or More, 18 cents.

International Labor Defense
80 E. 11th St., Room 402,
New York City.

Please send me..... copies of "SACCO
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Total	\$2636.26

The Chicago I. L. D. Bazaar

The Chicago local of International Labor Defense is holding its annual bazaar this year on December 9, 10, and 11, at Wicker Park Hall, 2040 West North Ave., near Robey, with one of the most colorful and varied programs of entertainment yet given. There will be excellent bands of music, dancing, tableau of class war prisoners, a Russian Balalaika Orchestra, Swedish dancer and Hungarian and Jewish singers. All workers are invited and urged to attend, the proceeds to go to the defense of imprisoned workers and the numerous defendants now on trial.



THIS CHRISTMAS

Remember the Labor Prisoners their Wives and Children

The following letter is from the wife of one of the Passaic strike prisoners. There are 8 of them with 24 children between all.

Nov. 2, 1927.

Dear Friends:

Your check for \$20 came just at a time when the rope was almost around my neck.

Of course I have suffered beyond words since my husband has been jailed; but these last two months have been the worst for me as my brother, who helped to keep the wolf from the door, is very sick. He underwent a very serious operation.

I have a baby only a few months old and two other children, one 6 and one 4 years old.

I appreciate and thank you very much for the money and I wish you all the success in the world in your undertaking.

Yours very sincerely
(signature withheld for obvious reasons.)

International Labor Defense sends regularly \$5 monthly to the men in prison and \$20 to their families. This Christmas we will send a special gift to indicate that those on the outside have not forgotten them.

Will You Help?

International Labor Defense
80 East 11th Street, Room 402,
New York City.

Enclosed please find \$..... to help continue your regular monthly assistance to the labor and political prisoners and their dependents and to give special help to them for Christmas.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

FOR CHRISTMAS

\$25 To Each Labor Prisoner

\$50 Each to their Wives

\$ 5 Each to their Children

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE